

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EPA-04 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /074 W

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R 061653Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0516

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

FAA BRUSSELS

UNCLAS LONDON 05307

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR, UK

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - CONCORDE

REF: PARIS 9729

1. IN FIRST TWO MONTHS OF CONCORDE SERVICE BETWEEN LONDON AND BAHRAIN, BRITISH AIRWAYS HAS HAD AVERAGE SEAT FACTOR OF ABOUT 40 PERCENT EASTBOUND AND APPROXIMATELY 65 PERCENT WESTBOUND. SEAT FACTOR IS BASED ON PERCENTAGE OF AVAILABLE SEATS SOLD. DURING FIRST TWO MONTHS OF CONCORDE OPERATIONS, SEATS AVAILABLE ON FLIGHTS OUT OF BAHRAIN HAVE BEEN LIMITED TO 71 (INSTEAD OF NORMAL 100) BECAUSE OF HIGH RUNWAY TEMPERATURES AND DEADWINDS ENROUTE. THIS REDUCTION IN AVAILABLE SEATS HAS HAD EFFECT OF INCREASING AVERAGE SEAT FACTOR. PASSENGER LOADS OUT OF BAHRAIN HAVE AVERAGED ABOUT 44. BECAUSE OF IMPROVED ENGINE PERFORMANCE IN TWO MONTHS OPERATING EXPERIENCE, SEATS AVAILABLE ON FLIGHTS OUT OF BAHRAIN HAVE NOW BEEN INCREASED TO 80.

2. BRITISH AIRWAYS IS LOSING MONEY ON ITS CONCORDE SERVICES BUT IS DOING SLIGHTLY BETTER THAN IT HAD ANTICIPATED. CONCORDE'S COMPETITION WILL GET KEENER,
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HOWEVER, NOW THAT GULF AIR HAS INTRODUCED DIRECT LONDON-

BAHRAIN SERVICE USING LUXURIOUSLY-APPOINTED TRISTAR
AIRCRAFT.

ARMSTRONG

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NNN

Message Attributes

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